

AGENDA WORK SESSION

March 13, 2014 – 5:00 pm

To Set the Agenda For The March 27, 2014 Council Meeting

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on March 13, 2013, 5:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall to set the agenda for the March 27, 2014 Council Meeting and other items. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Gravitt, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton.

New Business: Discussion

Discussion of Fuel Fleet Service – City Manager Hyatt has spoken with Mapco regarding the fuel fleet service. He stated we can get fleet cards that use a combination of pin numbers and mileage. We will also get \$.10 off per gallon and an additional \$.03 cents off at the pump for the first three months. Mr. Hyatt stated this is a better tracking system and would be easier for accounting purposes. Councilmember Sewell asked if we are exempt from the federal tax. Mr. Hyatt stated yes we are. He also stated that the City of Chattanooga, Signal Mountain and others use this system. In case of floods, emergencies, etc. Mapco can get their fuel even if the City cannot and pumps would be open to the City before it is sold to others. Mr. Hyatt recommends keeping an above ground diesel tank for fire trucks and garbage trucks. Councilmember Sewell would like to move this item up to tonight's regular meeting agenda. Mayor Lambert moved this item to tonight's agenda as Item A under New Business.

ORDINANCE NO. 964 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO AMEND THE ZONING REGULATIONS AND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 615 FRAWLEY ROAD FROM A-1 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT AND R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO RT-1 RESIDENTIAL TOWNHOUSE DISTRICT (1st reading) – Chief Building Official Dempsey stated the owner of this property wants to incorporate the property into what is already being built for set-backs and landscaping purposes. Mr. Dempsey also stated there is a discrepancy in the townhouse section of zoning ordinance regarding definitions of townhouses. The East Ridge Planning Commission could possibly make a recommendation to council to change the definition of a townhouse from 2 – 6 units rather than 4 – 12 units.

RESOLUTION NO. 2373 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED CONTRACT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN REGARDS TO THE RESURFACING OF MCBRIEN ROAD FROM RINGGOLD ROAD NORTH TO SOUTH TERRACE – Amanda Miller stated this is part of the TPO money we get from the state. The contract is for McBrien Road but we have matching funds to pave additional roads. Councilmember Sewell suggested coordinating with WWTa to see if they are doing any road cuts before we pave. Mayor Lambert moved this item up on tonight's agenda as Item B under New Business.

RESOLUTION NO. 2374 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2328, WITH REGARD TO THE DATE OF THE REFERENDUM CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE CITY CHARTER – City Attorney North asked that this be put on the agenda. He stated the referendum is currently scheduled for the August election. He suggests moving the referendum for charter changes to the November election in order to give the Charter Study Committee and Council more time to review the changes. Mayor Lambert moved this item to tonight's agenda as Item C under New Business.

Discussion of Capital Improvement Fund – City Manager Hyatt asked the Council to consider establishing a capital improvement fund so we can address a capital improvement plan. This would help for purchase of fire trucks, equipment, construction projects, etc. Councilmember Gravitt would like a set amount transferred to this fund every year. Mr. Bethune asked if the sanitation revenue could be put into a separate account in order to better track the funds. Mr. Sewell also suggested doing this in the recreation department in the future. Mr. Hyatt stated these separate funds cannot be used for other departments in the City. Staff will prepare a resolution for the next meeting to approve opening the account.

Discussion of Yearly Rental Permits – Mr. Hyatt stated that the state allows the City to charge \$10.00 for the permit. Mr. Dempsey stated we may not recoup the cost of inspections at this price. Mr. North will check into the state law regarding these permits. Mayor Lambert feels that landlords will think that this is a tax on their property. Vice Mayor Bethune asked if this applies to extended stay hotels. Mr. North stated extended stays could possibly be exempt. Mr. Sewell stated that a local hotel that was closed down for bedbugs and is not supposed to be extended stay, may now be providing extended stay. Mr. Dempsey stated they claim they are not extended stay and he has checked their books. If they are not extended stay, they should be paying hotel/motel tax. Mr. North stated we need to get evidence that this is happening.

Discussion on Retention of Bond Counsel – Mr. North stated this has come up in conjunction with the Industrial Development Board and suggested we have a separate bond counsel. He is not sure if there is anybody in Chattanooga that handles this, but there are companies in Nashville and Knoxville that do. Mr. North will get hourly rates and qualifications by the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

**PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE
FOR THE LPRF GRANT**

March 13, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.

Amanda Miller, City Services, opened the public hearing. Ms. Miller stated this is for a LPRF grant. Part of application process is to have three public meetings. One can be an online forum, which we are now doing now on facebook. The next meeting will be next Tuesday, March 18th at 9 am.

Ms. Miller stated that the proposal is for the Monroe Street property, the site of the former pool. The City is in the process of filling in the pool with broken up concrete. The pool will be turned into a grassy area.

Ms. Miller turned the meeting over to Parks and Recreation Director Stump Martin. Mr. Martin stated the park will have a ¼ mile walking track, a playpark for kids, a workout park for adults and a dog park. It will also have a restroom.

Comments from Citizens:

Mimi Lowrey, 819 Mt. Belvoir Drive, presented pictures of a park in Evans, GA, with similar property to what the City has. The park had a dog park with no maintenance and sand and rubber mulch. She stated that Pioneer Frontier is getting old and suggested renovating it, replacing the playground equipment and keeping the turrets. Ms. Lowrey stated the park should be attached to the Community Center and has activities such as shuffleboard, horseshoes, etc.

Marc Gravitt, 1511 South Smith, stated the restrooms do not need to be at the rear of building, because of the low visibility from the street. It should be where the existing building is. He also stated the dog park is too big and suggested cutting it down to ½ acre. He also stated the outdoor fitness area is at the back of the property where visibility is low, which is not a safe situation.

Tim Whitt, 1519 East Ridge Avenue, stated he lives behind the pool property and is concerned about the park having to be open at all times and people would be there at night. Ms. Miller stated that patrols could be stepped up in the area. Mr. Martin recommends that we put cameras on the property so that police can monitor. Mr. Whitt also stated that the entire park should be fenced in.

Larry Sewell, 1517 Tombras, stated he had a phone call about Pioneer Frontier being torn down. Mr. Martin stated that a lot of people worked hard on Pioneer Frontier and believes it can be at least partially preserved.

Doris Rogers asked if we could we incorporate a water area. Mr. Martin stated that we could at a later date, but the grant is set for \$200,000. Other grant could be available in the future.

Ms. Miller stated the next public hearing would be Tuesday, March 18th, 9 am. Comments can also be made on facebook.

Being no further comments, Ms. Miller closed the public hearing.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE**

March 13, 2014 - 6:30 p.m.

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on March 13, 2014, 6:30 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Councilmember Manning gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Gravitt, Councilmember Manning, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton.

Mayor Lambert made the following changes/additions to the agenda:

- Item A under New Business – Discussion of Fuel Fleet Service
- Item B under New Business – A Resolution Concerning Resurfacing McBrien Road
- Item C under New Business – A Resolution Concerning Charter Changes

The Mayor asked Director Martin to recognize East Ridge Futbol Club soccer players who made the Olympic Soccer Development Program. Mr. Martin introduced Andrew Lawrence, who recognized Sophia Venable from Heritage Middle School, Elisa Leverette from Lakeview Middle School, and Lane Lawrence from Heritage Middle School. Mr. Lawrence stated that five other qualified but could not be here. He also stated that these players are only three steps away from the Olympic Team.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes February 27, 2014 Agenda Work Session
- B. Approval of Minutes February 27, 2014 Council Meeting
- C. Declaration of Surplus Property

Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve the consent agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens:

Gail Phillips, 3906 N. Mission Oaks, and past president of Friends of the Playground, spoke on behalf of Pioneer Frontier. She stated the playground was built in 1994 by the community. She stated that handprints were put there by the children of East Ridge and there is a time capsule buried there. She has heard a rumor that the City is going to tear down and replace the playground and asked them to please consider keeping the playground. The Mayor stated the rumors are not true; that there is no intention on tearing down the playground.

Debbie Colburn, Clemons Road, also discussed keeping the playground. She stated that 1,000 volunteers built the playground in five days. Ms. Colburn and Ms. Phillips stated they will do what they can to help with repairs at the playground. Councilmember Sewell suggested getting a group together to refurbish the playground.

Carla Edmondson, 3521 Pinellas Lane, discussed the no parking on this street. She stated that the problems that had occurred were only in specific areas and asked that signs only be put in those areas. She stated there is not enough room for parking if cars cannot park on the street. City Manager Hyatt will check with the Fire and Police Chiefs to see if something can be done.

Rick Carpenter, 3119 Chickalilly, asked to amend the minutes from the last meeting, changing the word miscorrection to misdirection. He also wants Don Seagle removed from the WWTa board.

Mimi Lowrey, 819 Mt. Belvoir Drive, would like council to consider combining the Community Center, McBrien, Monroe Street property, and Pioneer Playground into one park. Director Martin stated this is a good idea, but does not think financially we can do this at the present time.

John Clemmer, 702 Belvoir Avenue, stated his home is in the curvy area on Belvoir. He stated there is a problem with speeders and would like to get speed humps and hidden driveway signs installed. Mr. Hyatt stated that speed humps are difficult sometimes for emergency vehicles. He will look into traffic calming. Councilmember Sewell suggested that the police put the flashing radar trailers on Belvoir and on Ringgold Road.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Councilmember Manning – nothing at this time.

Vice Mayor Bethune – nothing at this time.

Councilmember Sewell thanked the Street Department for their quick response in repairing a large pothole at the corner of Ringgold Road and Belvoir Avenue.

Councilmember Gravitt had nothing at this time.

Mayor Lambert stated he is in favor of doing something recreationally on this end of the City, but he believes the playground needs to be at Camp Jordan since Pioneer Frontier would be close to the Monroe Street property. There is no playground at Camp Jordan at this time. He stated there could still be a dog park and picnic area at Monroe Street. Councilmember Sewell suggested having basketball courts for the older kids. He stated building another playground close to Pioneer Frontier would be duplicating services within two blocks. Ms. Miller stated that Camp Jordan is not ideal, because according to the grant, the area has to be open to the public at all times.

The Mayor suggested doing basketball, shuffleboard, tennis courts and a dog park, etc. and possibly building a playground later at Camp Jordan. Councilmember Gravitt suggested reducing the size of the dog park and adding a basketball court. Director Martin stated the grant goes up to \$500,000, so we could change the amount we are requesting. She will have the engineer make changes on the map. Mr. Martin will check on prices for tennis courts. He also

stated that someone suggested we name the park after Mr. Kayo Erwin, a survivor of the U.S.S. Indianapolis who lives in East Ridge. Mr. Martin stated if we apply for more, then council will have to approve more for the City's match.

Communication from City Manager/Staff:

Mr. Hyatt stated he would have a budget presentation for the April 24th meeting.

Mr. Hyatt stated he was contacted by someone from UT asking if they could use our training room for the CMFO training once a month for the next 8 months.

Staff reports for February:

City Services – Amanda Miller

- Library – 2,720 books checked out, 29 e-books, 406 computers used, 6 story times (one included certified therapy dog). Participated in Read Across America. 4 visitors at History Center.
- Building Maintenance – installed TVs and cable at City Hall and Community Center, installed air compressor/electrical/plumbing at Transfer Station, inventoried pool equipment for GovDeals, various other repairs.
- Traffic Control – 72 new signs, 24 sign maintenance, 17 signal repairs, as well as street cut inspections, hanging banners, etc. Ms. Miller stated that street cuts will be moved to Code Enforcement.
- Sanitation
 - Recycling – picked up 41.36 tons with a savings of \$1,302.85 from landfill costs
 - Garbage – picked up over 502 tons of garbage
 - Brush – picked up 127 loads
 - Dumpster rental profit of \$636.51
- Streets – tore down tennis courts, worked at pool property, installed 400 ft. of pipe for citizens, ditch cleaning and opening blocked drains, and worked snow event
- Snow event – Cost the City \$20,511.85

Fire Department – Chief Williams

- Two employees were promoted, one to Shift Commander and one to Sergeant
- Hired 2 full time employees from volunteer division.
- Answered 288 calls
- \$15,500 in property loss, \$899,500 in property saved.
- Average response time 4 minutes and 32 seconds.
- Codes 65 inspections, 40 code violation letters sent out, 13 building permits for a total \$3,121 and 16 street-cut inspections.

Chief Williams stated he would like to have his new firefighters sworn in by the Mayor at one of the Council meetings. He stated the employees that were promoted are Jess Sloan and Randy Albright. New employees are Travis Ezell and Aaron Smith.

Police Department - Chief Reed

- Chief Reed hired one new officer, Suzanne Booth, formerly with Cleveland, who has 19 years of experience, and is certified.
- Winter storm – incurred no overtime costs during this storm.

- Answered 1,255 total calls. Stopped 237 cars and wrote 387 tickets. 186 new reports for Criminal Investigation Division.
- 89 new warrants, 59 served.
- Ordered 19 new vests on January 16th which were issued this month.
- Animal services answered 103 calls.
- Scheduled training next month which may require some traveling.
- Chief Reed commended the Street Dept. for the job they did during the snowstorm.
- Several meetings in preparation of Liberty Fest, the Honda Gold Wing Rally and various ball tournaments.

Councilmember Gravitt asked when the new cruisers would be on the road. The Chief stated the sign packages are ready; they are waiting on the vehicles to be delivered, hopefully before the end of this month. Councilmember Manning stated he appreciates the chief for escorting funerals.

Parks and Recreation – Director Martin

- Installed new grass infields for a total of 4.
- Met with Venue Church about Easter egg hunt with possibly more than 5,000 people attending.
- Mothers of Multiples sale is going on at Community Center.
- Just Between Friends Consignment Sale will be at Arena with over 800 consignors.
- Digital sign is ordered and will be installed in May at the park.
- Checking on fencing for grassy area by amphitheater.
- Bleachers were removed from ballfields and will be replaced with soccer bleachers.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 961 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 956 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014 APPROPRIATING THE SAME TO THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT...” BY DESIGNATING FUND BALANCE FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND BY CHANGING THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE GENERAL FUND (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to approve Ordinance No. 961 on second and final reading. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 962 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE CREATING THE POSITION OF CITY TREASURER (2nd and final reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Manning, to approve Ordinance No. 962 on second and final reading. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Bethune – yes; Councilmember Gravitt – yes; Councilmember Manning – yes; Councilmember Sewell – yes; Mayor Lambert – no. Motion approved.

Army Corp of Engineers flood study – City Manager Hyatt stated council needs to decide in which direction they are going on this matter. He has contacted Homeland Security, TEMA to discuss money issues. He stated that a flood study was done in Cleveland that was completely

paid for by FEMA. The flooding problems in East Ridge affect more homes. He is working behind the scenes to try to come up with more funding. Ms. Miller has tried to contact TDEC but has no response yet. She contacted Hamilton County and they referred her to TDEC. This will be on the next meeting.

Appointments to Industrial Development Board – Councilmember Manning and 2 appointees by council - Councilmember Manning appointed Attorney Estes Cocke to the Board. Councilmember Sewell would like for Council to consider Eddie Phillips for the board because he was involved in this issue from the beginning. Mayor Lambert stated that Mr. Phillips was here during crafting of the border region act and has knowledge of that others do not have. Mr. Bethune stated that the appointees have to be members of civic organizations unless no one can be found from the organizations. Mr. Gravitt stated that an elected official cannot serve on the board. The Mayor suggested that if anyone has an interest in serving, to please let them know. Director Martin suggested that the Vice President of Playcore who lives in East Ridge may be a possibility. Mr. Gravitt stated this could be a conflict if Playcore gets the contract for the new playground.

Mayor Lambert stated he would like to see new people involved in the City's boards, rather than "recycling" the same people on the boards. He would like to put together a list of interested people who would be willing to serve on these boards.

New Business:

Fuel Fleet Service – Mayor Lambert stated he was speaking with the city attorney and they feel that it would be best to allow time to write a resolution for this item. He suggested waiting until the next regular council meeting in order for staff to prepare a resolution. Council had no objection.

RESOLUTION NO. 2373 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED CONTRACT WITH THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN REGARDS TO THE RESURFACING OF MCBRIEN ROAD FROM RINGGOLD ROAD NORTH TO SOUTH TERRACE – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to approve Resolution No. 2373. Mayor Lambert stated the city's portion of the cost is in State Street Aid. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2374 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE, AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2328, WITH REGARD TO THE DATE OF THE REFERENDUM CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE CITY CHARTER – City Attorney North read on caption. Mr. North stated that the charter changes are scheduled to be on the August election, but feels it would be beneficial to move it to the November election in order to give the Charter Study Committee and the Council time to review the suggested changes. Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to approve Resolution No. 2374. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Bethune – yes; Councilmember Gravitt – yes; Councilmember Manning – no; Councilmember Sewell – yes; Mayor Lambert – yes. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned.

**PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE
FOR THE LPRF GRANT**

March 18, 2014 - 9:00 a.m.

Amanda Miller, City Services, opened public hearing. Ms. Miller stated this is for a LPRF grant. Part of application process is to have three public meetings, this being the second. One can be an online forum, which we are now doing now on facebook.

Michael Frixen with Southeast Tennessee Development District (SETDD) was present to answer questions about the grant process. SETDD is helping the City with the grant application.

Ms. Miller stated that after the Council meeting on the previous Thursday, Council added three tennis courts, a basketball court, and moved the playground and restroom to the front of the property. The dog park location changed, and the track stayed in the same location.

Director Martin stated the City could not afford six tennis courts, so we are planning on three. We also had to change configuration of the dog park and reduce it from 1 acre to about ½ acre. He stated we can add three more tennis courts at a later date. The location of the basketball court was also changed. Mr. Martin also stated there would be picnic tables and benches located in various areas.

Ms. Miller stated there could be sponsorship opportunities in the future, possibly selling bricks.

Comments from Citizens:

Dick Cook asked how many cars the parking lot would accommodate. Ms. Miller stated approximately 30.

Mr. Cook asked how many people will be able to use the park at one time. Ms. Miller is not sure of the amount, but with all the facilities, she believes it will accommodate a lot of people.

Mr. Cook asked if we do not get the grant, where do we stand. Mr. Martin stated we would do the park a little at a time, starting with filling in the pool, have a walking track and a dog park.

Mr. Martin stated that the city had applied for an LPRF grant two years ago, but didn't get it because we were not benchmarked. We were only six points away from getting it and would have had we been benchmarked with the state. Mr. Frixen stated that typically, the larger cities are the ones that are benchmarked.

Doris Rogers, 732 Germantown Circle, asked if shuffleboard and a splash park could be added later. Ms. Miller stated that shuffleboard could be added at the community center. Mr. Martin stated we still want to do splash park but may have to do it later.

Mr. Cook asked if in-kind contributions from the City could be counted as the City's match. Ms. Miller stated yes they could. There is also no cap on in-kind contributions.

Being no further comments, Ms. Miller closed the public hearing.

AGENDA WORK SESSION

March 27, 2014 – 5:00 pm

To Set the Agenda For The April 10, 2014 Council Meeting

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on March 27, 2014, 5:00 pm at East Ridge City Hall to set the agenda for the April 10, 2014 Council Meeting and other items. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Gravitt, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton. Councilmember Manning was not present due to his recent surgery. The Mayor asked everyone to remember Mr. Manning and his family in their thoughts and prayers.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 964 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO AMEND THE ZONING REGULATIONS AND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 615 FRAWLEY ROAD FROM A-1 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT AND R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO RT-1 RESIDENTIAL TOWNHOUSE DISTRICT (2nd and final reading) – This will be second reading depending on the outcome of the first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 965 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 481), BY MODIFYING THE DEFINITION OF "TOWNHOUSE" UNDER ARTICLE II, SECTION 218, AND ADDING ARTICLE V, SECTION 303.10 (2nd and final reading) – This will be second reading depending on the outcome of the first reading.

New Business: Discussion

Ordinance to amend the budget – Director Qualls stated this is for changing expenditures. Indoor soccer was successful with over 1,500 players when we only budgeted for 1,000 causing more expenditures. As of today we are at 61% of expenditures when at this time we should be at 75%. Councilmember Gravitt asked Chief Reed if he still was going to request additional patrol cars. The Chief stated he would in the next budget. Mr. Gravitt stated we should look at in this budget since we are under on expenditures. Chief Reed is looking to purchase 15 cars, because some of the cars are eating into the repair budget. Council also discussed hiring more certified officers.

RESOLUTION NO. 2379 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED AGREEMENT WITH ORANGE GROVE CENTER, INC. FOR SERVICES PROVIDED AT CAMP JORDAN PARK – Staff is asking to move this forward to tonight's meeting. Director Martin stated the Orange Grove people help clean the park and the restrooms, and do a very good job. This was moved to tonight's meeting as item L under New Business.

Discussion of Flea Market Zoning – City Attorney North stated this relates to the Chen lawsuit. Mr. Hyatt and Mr. North met with Mr. Chen about a proposed revision of the parking lot configuration. Mr. Chen also wants to do away with the requirement of a covered pavilion in back of the building. Mayor Lambert stated the original use on review was good only for the original owner and asked the attorney if Mr. Chen should be operating at all. When the flea market changed hands, that use on review no longer applied. The Mayor wants Mr. North to find out if that is legal.

Vice Mayor Bethune had nothing at this time.

Councilmember Sewell stated that Spring Creek Elementary is having their spring carnival on May 22nd and is asking for permission to put up a banner on Ringgold Road. This can be added to the next agenda.

Councilmember Sewell stated that with all the events going on in the park, he would like to see a police officer assigned to the park. Director Martin stated that Chief Reed has worked with us on events in the park. At the times, when the park is the busiest, we pay reserves \$10 an hour or we have a full time officer on duty in the park. Mr. Sewell stated there should be a police presence with the walkers as well. Chief Reed stated he is working on something to possibly have a part time officer in the park during the busiest times of the year.

Director Martin stated that some people that walk at the track have complained about bicycles on the track. One person suggested that bikes should go in the opposite direction of the walkers. Mr. Sewell stated that dogs can be a problem because of running loose on the track. Councilmember Gravitt asked Chief Reed if we could put a reserve officer at the park without a full time officer with him. The Chief stated it is based on what that officer does. Mr. Hyatt suggested putting officers on bicycles in the park. Chief Reed stated he has also been looking at an additional 4-wheeler that could be used in the park. This could be paid for from a donation or possibly buy one from the state surplus. A reserve could ride on a 4-wheeler and if there is an issue the reserve can call for an officer.

Councilmember Gravitt stated that a business owner came to him about the permit fee for outside sanitation companies that have dumpsters in the City. This person stated that other cities do not do this. Amanda Miller stated this was put into place by another city manager. Mr. Gravitt stated we do not charge for other services such as outside exterminators, wrecker companies, etc. Mr. Gravitt would like to add this to the next agenda to amend the ordinance to remove this fee.

Vice Mayor Bethune stated that he has been told that the apartments just before the tunnels are unlivable. Chief Williams stated that a portion of the apartments burned about a year ago. That area is separated from the other building by a breezeway and is not occupied. Mr. Bethune stated this was not part of the burned area. Chief Williams will check into this tomorrow.

Councilmember Gravitt has checked with the state and we cannot do the rental permits as someone had suggested. Mr. North stated that we could check into charging a business license fee.

Mayor Lambert stated that a business owner told him that he could not put up a banner to advertise his business because his business is not large enough for one according to the sign

ordinance. Chief Williams stated there is a special permit sign permit that you can get for a period of 30 days. The Mayor suggested that the Council look at the sign ordinance to make changes that would be friendlier to small businesses. Chief Williams stated we need guidelines for our signs but believes the regulations are sometimes too strict. The Chief will check to see what other cities do.

Vice Mayor Bethune asked if political signs have to be five feet off the road. Chief Williams stated there are height and distance restrictions. The Chief will check into this.

City Manager Hyatt stated he has been here almost six months and would like a formal evaluation from the Council within the next 30 days. He has forms from MTAS if they want them. Councilmember Sewell stated he has no problem just meeting one on one with Mr. Hyatt to do the evaluation. Mr. Hyatt will formulate a plan to do the evaluations.

Council discussed cancelling the April 10th meeting since Mr. North and Mr. Bethune will be out of town that week, plus Mr. Manning may not be here because of his surgery. Mayor Lambert added this to tonight's meeting as Item M.

Mayor Lambert discussed how we can promote events and also promote our city. He discussed partnering with the Chamber of Commerce to do a shopping and dining guide for East Ridge. He believes this would help bolster businesses in East Ridge. Mr. Hyatt stated that another city he was in had a marketing ploy of spending \$20 on the 20th day of each month. Director Martin stated that he has budgeted for something like this and would be happy to put something together for the guide. We could also put this online.

Mr. Martin stated the senior lunch is the next day at 11 am at the Community Center and invited the council to attend.

The meeting was adjourned.

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE**

March 27, 2014 - 6:30 p.m.

The East Ridge City Council met pursuant to notice on March 27, 2014, 6:30 pm at East Ridge City Hall. Mayor Lambert called the meeting to order.

City Attorney Hyatt gave the invocation. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were: Mayor Lambert, Vice Mayor Bethune, Councilmember Gravitt, Councilmember Sewell, City Manager Hyatt, City Attorney North, and City Recorder Middleton. Councilmember Manning was not present because of his recent surgery. The Mayor asked for prayers for Mr. Manning and his family.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes March 13, 2014 Agenda Work Session
- B. Approval of Minutes March 13, 2014 Council Meeting
- C. Approval of February 2014 Financial Statement

Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to approve the consent agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Communication from Citizens:

Curtis Baker, 6820 Beulah Drive, stated his opposition to Ordinance No. 964. He stated we do not need any more rental or Section 8 property in that area. The Mayor stated there will be a public hearing on this issue under New Business.

Frances Pope, 1913 Close Road, discussed Resolution No. 2275 regarding the grant for the playground. She does not think the City should be obligated to a \$250,000 match for the grant. She also discussed the Futbol club and tournament fees on the financial report.

Communication from Councilmembers:

Vice Mayor Bethune had nothing at this time.
Councilmember Sewell had nothing at this time.
Councilmember Gravitt had nothing at this time.
Mayor Lambert had nothing at this time.

Communication from City Manager/Staff:

City Manager Hyatt stated a question came up in the last meeting about the chain saws that were bought to help clear debris from the tornadoes in 2011. He stated that all chain saws are accounted for and are still in operation.

Mr. Hyatt stated the hotel/motel tax came up in the last meeting. He stated that there are 12 hotels that pay which includes every hotel that council previously discussed.

Councilmember Gravitt asked if Mr. Hyatt has gotten an answer on the Crown Inn paying hotel/motel taxes. Chief Building Official Dempsey stated they are operating as a hotel, not an extended stay. Mr. Hyatt stated that this hotel did pay their hotel/motel tax.

Mr. Hyatt stated that staff is getting information on marble and stone for the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial

Mr. Hyatt stated that staff is getting a quote on a weather warning system for Camp Jordan. Chief Williams is also looking at a tornado warning system.

Mr. Hyatt stated staff is in the process of scanning all ordinances and resolutions to put them online.

Finance Director Qualls gave a report on March financials. She stated that in March we are at 74.5% of revenues because of property taxes. We took in 1.9 million in property taxes. Our expenditures are at 61.8% of the budget. She stated that all departments are carefully watching their budgets.

Old Business:

Army Corps of Engineers Flood Study – City Manager Hyatt stated Council needs to decide on doing the study or possibly focus in a different direction. The City's part of the study would be \$350,000. Mr. Hyatt also stated that a company is doing a wetlands study on property that is close in proximity to Camp Jordan and they have agreed to dig a retention pond if they go forward with their project. We could also create retention ponds in the park. Councilmember Gravitt agrees; the study will tell us that the City floods and we already know that. He stated we should look at using rubber tire excavators to clean out the creek, but we are not allowed to dredge or dig in the creeks. We could also use equipment that the City already has if we do not get into the creeks. Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gravitt, to respectfully reject the Corps study at this time. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Appointment to Industrial Development Board - one appointee by council – Mayor Lambert stated there is still one slot that needs to be filled. Councilmember Sewell suggested Buddy Broome, who is a business owner in East Ridge. Councilmember Gravitt stated he has not had an opportunity to speak to him, but suggested Curtis Baker to serve on the board. Mr. Baker was a member of the East Ridge Revitalization and was instrumental in getting World Changer's to come to East Ridge. Mr. Baker was present at the meeting and stated he would like some time to think about the appointment. Mr. North stated that once the entire board is comprised, then Council needs to vote to approve them. Mayor Lambert stated that based on the border region legislation, there are certain milestones that have to be met, so we need to have someone go back and look at everything that could count toward the required \$20 million. Demolition costs would also count toward this amount.

New Business:

Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 964 – Mayor Lambert opened the public hearing and asked for anyone that wished to speak in favor of Ordinance No. 964 to come forward. Mike Price, Map Engineers, 7380 Applegate Lane, stated this has come before the Council once before and was granted approval as it related to layout of a turnaround. He has now bought some additional land, about ½ acre, which will allow them to build a standard turnaround. The development is not a rental community; it is for sale. Mayor Lambert stated this has been through the East Ridge Planning Commission where it was approved.

At this time, the Mayor asked for opposition to this ordinance. Philip Totten, 614 Frawley Road, stated that once this property is zoned R-2 it could be used for anything. Mayor Lambert stated if the current owner sold the property and the new owner attempted to do anything different in zoning, they would have to restart the process and go back before the Planning Commission. Being no further comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 964 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO AMEND THE ZONING REGULATIONS AND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 615 FRAWLEY ROAD FROM A-1 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT AND R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO RT-1 RESIDENTIAL TOWNHOUSE DISTRICT (1st reading) – City Attorney North read on caption. Mayor Lambert stated he could possibly have a conflict with voting to approve this since he lives two houses down from this development and it could impact him personally. City Attorney North agreed that it could be a potential conflict. Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Ordinance No. 964 on first reading. Mr. Price stated this would only affect two or three units out of 19. He stated covenants could be put in to discourage rental, because the intent is not to rent. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Bethune – yes; Councilmember Gravitt – yes; Councilmember Sewell – yes; Mayor Lambert – abstain. Motion approved.

Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 965 - Mayor Lambert opened the public hearing and asked for anyone that wished to speak in favor of Ordinance No. 965 to come forward. Mike Price, MAP Engineers, stated this change was brought about due to the previous ordinance that was just approved. He stated that currently the zoning ordinance states for townhomes the number of units is 4 – 12. When the Villages of Frawley were built, there were four 2-unit buildings that were constructed. The variance board granted approval for triplexes but not duplexes, which made these fall outside the current zoning. Chief Building Official Dempsey stated this was an oversight on his part and on the Hamilton County Planning Commission's part because the Commission recommended approval. Approval of this would bring the property into compliance with the zoning regulations. Mayor Lambert stated these are not technically duplexes in the normal sense of the word; they are part of the complex that will be sold, not constructed as rental property. Councilmember Gravitt asked if this has gone before the East Ridge Planning Commission. Mr. Bethune stated this it has and was approved. Mr. Price stated these are still townhomes that will be sold and not rented.

At this time, the Mayor asked for opposition to this ordinance. Speaking in opposition was Curtis Baker, 6820 Beulah Drive; Phil Totten, 614 Frawley Road; Lisa Tarr, 614 Frawley Road, and Rosemary Baker, 6820 Beulah Drive. They believe this could lead to other duplexes being built in the area, plus adding more traffic.

Being no further comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 965 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 481), BY MODIFYING THE DEFINITION OF "TOWNHOUSE" UNDER ARTICLE II, SECTION 218, AND ADDING ARTICLE V, SECTION 303.10 (1st reading) – Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to table Ordinance No. 965. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2375 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2369 WHICH AUTHORIZED THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A LOCAL PARKS AND RECREATION FUNDS (LPRF) GRANT – City Attorney North read on caption. Amanda Miller stated this would amend the amount of money the City is asking for since council wanted to add tennis courts and a basketball court. We have to resubmit a resolution to increase the match from \$100,000 to \$250,000. Ms. Miller stated we could also amend the resolution to say the City's match could include in-kind services. Councilmember Sewell stated he cannot agree to building a playground that close to Pioneer Frontier; that we need a playground at Camp Jordan. Director Martin stated this was originally planned for Camp Jordan, but Council moved it to Monroe Street. Mayor Lambert agreed that if we do another playground it should be at Camp Jordan. Mr. Martin stated that it includes a workout park for adults, which could help the City in getting the grant, but is not required.

Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to reject Resolution No. 2375. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Mayor Lambert made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to amend Resolution No. 2369 to reflect a wording change to say "through a cash match and/or in-kind match." The Mayor stated we have talked about tennis courts and a dog park for years, and if awarded this grant, East Ridge High School would have a place to play tennis within the city. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2376 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR MAPCO'S FLEET ADVANTAGE FUEL CARD – City Attorney North read on caption. City Manager Hyatt stated this does not exclusively lock us into Mapco; we still could use other businesses. This will help us on our reporting system. Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to approve Resolution No. 2376. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2377 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO OPEN A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND INTEREST BEARING CHECKING ACCOUNT – City Attorney North read on caption. City Manager Hyatt stated council discussed this at the last meeting to start a capital improvement fund with \$1 million from the fund balance and add a certain percentage every year. Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to amend Resolution No. 2377 to add additional language that the fund will be opened with \$1,000,000 and add a minimum of 25% every year to

be determined by Council at the end of each fiscal year. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2378 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH HENDERSON, HUTCHERSON, AND MCCULLOUGH, PLLC FOR AUDITING SERVICES AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF TENNESSEE AND OTHER REGULATORY AGENCIES – City Attorney North read on caption. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to approve Resolution No. 2378. Mayor Lambert stated this firm has done a wonderful job with the auditing services over the last three years. Roll call vote: Vice Mayor Bethune – yes; Councilmember Gravitt – abstain (he is currently doing work for Henderson, Hutcherson and McCullough); Councilmember Sewell – yes; Mayor Lambert – yes. Motion approved.

Approval to waive fee for use of picnic pavilion by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 203 for their annual R & R picnic on May 24, 2014. – Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gravitt, to approve the request. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Yearly Rental Permits – City Attorney Hyatt stated that based on information from Councilmember Gravitt and City Attorney North, he believes Council should table this item. Vice Mayor Bethune made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell, to table. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Retention of Bond Counsel – City Attorney North has talked to various attorneys in Tennessee about representing the City as bond council, regarding the border region legislation. He has talked to a representative from Bass, Berry and Sims who represented Bristol in their border region legislation. This gentleman would come here and meet with Mr. North, Mr. Hyatt and any Councilmember that wanted to attend.

Mayor Lambert added the following items that were discussed at the agenda work session to the agenda under New Business:

RESOLUTION NO. 2379 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST RIDGE, TENNESSEE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED AGREEMENT WITH ORANGE GROVE CENTER, INC. FOR SERVICES PROVIDED AT CAMP JORDAN PARK - Director Martin stated we have a crew from Orange Grove that comes every year to help with cleaning, grounds maintenance, etc. and it is very beneficial to the park and to Orange Grove. Councilmember Gravitt made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to approve Resolution No. 2379. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Discussion of Cancelling April 10th meeting – City Attorney North and Vice Mayor Bethune will be out of town on April 10th and Councilmember Manning is recovering from surgery. Councilmember Sewell made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Bethune, to approve cancelling the April 10th meeting. The vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned.